

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A pallet comprising a deck, a plurality of legs extending downwardly from said deck, said deck having raised and recessed areas, said raised areas lying in a substantially horizontal top plane, said recessed areas being vertically spaced from said raised areas and lying in a substantially horizontal bottom plane, and an upstanding wall interconnecting said raised and recessed areas.
- 1 2. The pallet of claim 1, wherein said raised and recessed areas are arranged on said deck in an alternating pattern relative to each other.
- 1 3. The pallet of claim 2 further comprising a trench formed centrally within and substantially spanning said deck, said trench having a base that lies in said bottom plane, said raised and recessed areas being formed on both sides of said trench.
- 1 4. The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a support column extending upwardly from the base of said trench and being located adjacent a said recessed area located adjacent to said trench.
- 1 5. The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a spacer extending upward from said base of said trench and having a top surface lying in said top plane.
- 1 6. The pallet of claim 5, wherein said spacer extends across said trench and is located adjacent recessed areas on both sides of said trench and interconnected therewith at said upstanding wall.
- 1 7. The pallet of claim 3 further comprising a reinforcing fold at each end of said trench formed in an outer wall of said deck.
- 1 8. The pallet of claim 1, wherein each of said raised and recessed areas include a drainage hole positioned therein.

1 9. The pallet of claim 1, wherein said raised and recessed areas have a
2 polygonal form.

1 10. The pallet of claim 1, including three rows of three legs that are aligned
2 with each other and formed integrally with said deck, said legs extending
3 downward below said bottom plane and defining a pair of gaps on either
4 side of a center row of said legs and on either side of a center column of
5 said legs.

1 11. The pallet of claim 1, wherein said legs are hollow having a leg base and
2 an upstanding sidewall extending from said leg base to said deck.

1 12. The pallet of claim 1, wherein said legs have an open top at said deck,
2 and wherein said sidewall of each said leg tapers from said top inward
3 toward said base defining a tapered recess.

1 13. The pallet of claim 11, wherein said upstanding sidewall of each of said
2 legs defines a plurality of folds adapted to resist buckling loads placed on
3 said deck.

1 14. The pallet of claim 13, wherein said folds include at least one convex fold
2 and at least one concave fold.

1 15. The pallet of claim 11, wherein said legs have a generally rectangular
2 profile and wherein said upstanding sidewall of each said leg includes a
3 plurality of reinforcing folds, wherein said folds include convex folds
4 formed at each corner of each said leg and spaced from each other by at
5 least one concave fold and wherein an additional convex fold is formed
6 along each long side of said leg between said convex folds formed at said
7 corners, wherein said additional convex fold is spaced from said folds at
8 said corners by at least one concave fold.

- 1 16. The pallet of claim 11, wherein said base of said legs includes a drainage
- 2 hole.

- 1 17. The pallet of claim 1 further comprising a hold.

- 1 18. The pallet of claim 10, wherein said hold is an opening formed in said
- 2 deck.

- 1 19. The pallet of claim 1, wherein said deck has an outer wall formed about
- 2 its periphery and a rim extending outwardly from said deck beyond said
- 3 outer wall.

- 1 20. The pallet of claim 1, wherein the pallet is constructed of a polymeric
- 2 material.

- 1 21. The pallet of claim 20, wherein the pallet is formed as a unitary structure.

- 1 22. A pallet comprising a deck having a plurality of raised and recessed
- 2 areas, said raised areas lying in a substantially horizontal top plane and
- 3 said recessed areas lying in a substantially horizontal bottom plane, said
- 4 top and bottom planes being vertically spaced from each other, wherein
- 5 said raised and recessed areas include planar webs having a polygonal
- 6 shape, said webs lying respectively in said top and bottom planes and
- 7 interconnected to each other by an upstanding wall, said raised and
- 8 recessed areas are being arranged on said deck in an alternating pattern,
- 9 and a plurality of legs extending downward from said deck below said
- 10 bottom plane defining a gap beneath said bottom plane and between said
- 11 legs.